

1945

Camborne-Redruth Urban District Council.

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# TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C. RIVERS, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P.

for the twelve months ending

DECEMBER 31, 1945.



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CAMBORNE-REDRUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Report

for the year ending December 31, 1945.

SECTION A. Statistics and social conditions of the area.

STATISTICS.

1.	Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,411 acres.
	Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,850
	Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,933
		Camborne	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,294
		Redruth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,859
		Illogan	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,432
		St. Day and Lanner	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,348
									10,933
	Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£132,862
	Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£520

2. Employment.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Camborne and Redruth Employment Exchange areas in July, 1945, was:—

Males.	Females.
6,225	3,136

During the year 1945 the employment position in the Camborne-Redruth area revealed a marked decrease in the employment opportunities available, and unemployment increased. Towards the end of the year redundancies in the engineering, civil engineering, munitions and tin mining industries occurred, mainly owing to the cessation of war contracts.

Many of the women leaving munition work being married, returned to normal household duties, while others resumed their usual occupations in shops, offices and other miscellaneous industries.

Requests for juvenile labour remained good throughout the year and there was practically no unemployment among this class of worker.

Employment in market gardening and in agriculture continued at a very high level and workers for potato lifting were in great demand.

It is apparent that only the introduction of new industries into the area can prevent heavy unemployment and the future prosperity of the area requires to be under constant review by the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

SECTION A (Statistics)—continued.

Unemployment in Camborne and Redruth in 1945.

Statistics for four quarterly dates.

Date.	MEN aged 18 years and over.	BOYS under 18 years.	WOMEN aged 18 years and over.	GIRLS under 18 years.	Total.
15-1-45	127	12	42	5	186
16-4-45	92	5	11	2	110
16-7-45	101	6	5	1	113
15-10-45	144	5	104	8	261

The above figures exclude men classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment, numbering:—24 at January 15, 24 at April 16, 25 at July 16, and 57 at October 16.

3. Poor Law Relief.

In the year	...	1935	1939	1942	1945
In cash and in kind		£22,443	£20,724	£13,453	£13,460
Relief in 1945 included relief in cash	...	...	...	£12,656	
relief in kind	...	...	...	£804	
			Total	£13,460	

4. VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

		Males.	Females.	1945 Total.	1944 Total.	1936 Total.
Legitimate	...	199	240	439	535	454
Illegitimate	...	44	31	75	52	29
Total Live Births		243	271	514	587	483

Birth Rate (Live Births per 1,000 estimated mean annual population).

Year	...	1945.	1944.	1935.
		15.58	16.9	13.3

Still Births.

		Males.	Females.	1945 Total.	1944 Total.	1936 Total.
Legitimate	...	16	10	26	23	15
Illegitimate	...	2	2	4	2	0
Total Still Births		18	12	30	25	15
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births				55.1	—	(32.3)

Deaths from all causes.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	1944 Total.	1936 Total.
	229	252	481	510	520

Death Rate (that is deaths per 1,000 mean annual population).

Year	...	1945.	1944.	1936.	1938.
		14.21	14.71	14.74	15.4

Comparative Birth and Death Rates for the year 1945.

		Camborne-Redruth.	England & Wales.	148 Smaller Towns of Pop. 25,000—50,000.
Live Birth Rate	...	15.18	16.1	19.2
Still Birth Rate	...	0.88	0.46	0.53
Death Rate	...	14.21	11.4	12.3

The Camborne-Redruth Birth Rate, 15.18 is again lower than that of England and Wales 16.0 and the Death Rate 14.21 higher 11.4.



SECTION A (Statistics)—continued.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males.	Females.	1945 Total.	1944 Total.	1936 Total.
Legitimate	...	6	7	13	24	23
Illegitimate	...	2	2	4	0	1
Totals	... ..	8	9	17	24	24

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

	Camborne-Redruth.		England & Wales.	
	1945.	1936.	1945.	1936.
All infants per 1,000 live births	33.1	49.6	46.	59.
Legitimate per 1,000 live births	20.9	—	—	—
Illegitimate per 1,000 live births	53.3	—	—	—

Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births).

Camborne-Redruth.			England & Wales.		
1935	1944	1945	1935	1944	1945
71.7	40.88	33.1	57.0	46.0	46.0

Infant mortality provides us with one of the best guides to the state of public health of the area concerned.

During the first ten years of the present century the average annual infant mortality rate for England and Wales was 128. Thereafter it fell to 80 in the year 1920 and to 46 in the year 1944, there it remained in 1945.

The infant mortality rate in the year 1945 in the Camborne-Redruth area likewise reached its nadir, namely, 33.1, which is lower than that for England and Wales (46).

5. Population.

For the first six years following amalgamation of areas in 1934, there was a steady decrease of population, averaging 65 every year. After 1941 and until the present time this decrease has not only stopped but reversed to a steady increase of population in the area, averaging 79 a year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Population decrease.		Increase.
1935	...	474	...	527	...	53	Nil
1936	...	483	...	520	...	37	Nil
1937	...	487	...	580	...	93	Nil
1938	...	463	...	540	...	77	Nil
1939	...	514	...	566	...	48	Nil
1940	...	486	...	567	...	81	Nil
1941	...	—	...	—	...	...	—
1942	...	542	...	472	...	...	Plus 70
1943	...	646	...	510	...	...	Plus 136
1944	...	587	...	510	...	...	Plus 77
1945	...	514	...	481	...	...	Plus 33

Number of persons who, at death, attained old age.

Age at death.		Males.		Females.		1945 Total.		1938 Total.		1936 Total.
70-74 years	...	26	...	44	...	70	...	73	...	57
75-79 years	...	35	...	38	...	73	...	85	...	75
80-84 years	...	22	...	34	...	56	...	57	...	52
85-89 years	...	10	...	23	...	33	...	25	...	27
90-94 years	...	2	...	9	...	11	...	6	...	14
95-99 years	...	0	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	5
100 years	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0
Totals	...	95		149		244		248		230

SECTION A (Statistics)—continued.

Persons attaining the age of 70 years or over, at death.

		Total deaths.	Aged 70 or over.		Year 1945. Rate per 1,000 deaths.	Year 1938. Rate per 1,000 deaths.		
Males	...	229	...	95	...	414	...	313
Females	...	252	...	149	...	591	...	569

It thus is shewn that a larger proportion of women attain old age than men. (591 females per 1,000 female deaths ; 414 males per 1,000 male deaths). Women also attain a greater age than do men.

The causes of death in the area in the year 1945.

						Males.	Females.	Total.
1.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory organs	...	...	...	...	23	5	28
2.	Tuberculosis of other parts	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
3.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
4.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
5.	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
6.	Cerebro-spinal-fever	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
7.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
8.	Diarrhoea (in child under two years)	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
9.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
10.	Cancer	...	...	...	...	24	39	63
11.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
12.	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	66	81	147
13.	Disease of blood vessels	...	...	...	...	24	40	64
14.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	15	8	23
15.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
16.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	11	1	12
17.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
18.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
19.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
20.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	5	13	18
21.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
22.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
23.	Premature births	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
24.	Congenital debility	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
25.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
26.	Road traffic	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
27.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	6	6	12
28.	All other causes	...	...	...	...	29	28	57
Total deaths						229	252	481

Deaths from tuberculosis compared with deaths from cancer.

During the last 10 years the average yearly number of deaths caused by tuberculosis was 31.5, but from cancer it was 69.

In 1945, deaths from tuberculosis were 32, while from cancer 63.

That is, death from cancer is approximately twice as frequent as deaths from tuberculosis.

Silicosis.

Under the Various Industries Silicosis Medical Arrangements Scheme, 1931, the Medical Board, in this area, dealt with 44 claims as against 43 in the previous year.

The number of claims arising in the area was	...	21
The number of claims arising outside the area was	...	23
Total		44

Of these 44 claims 10 were death claims, the others disability claims.

Disabled Cornish Miners returned from the Rand, South Africa, and examined during the year were:—

1.	Those residing within the area	...	...	6
2.	Those residing outside the area	...	...	8
				14



## SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services in the area.

### Public Health Officers of the Authority.

#### 1. Medical.

##### Medical Officer of Health.

Charles Rivers, M.A., M.D., B.C. (Camb.), B.Sc., M.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.

#### Sanitary.

##### Chief Sanitary Inspector.

C. F. Baxter, Cert. R.S.I., Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Cert. I.H., M.S.I.A.

##### Sanitary Inspectors.

M. Nairn, Cert. R.S.I., Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

T. R. Wignall, Cert. R.S.I., Army Certificate of Sanitation.

#### Water.

##### Waterworks Engineer.

T. F. King, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E.

#### Housing.

##### Housing Officer.

Wesley Hawke.

In addition to the above staff there is a foreman and about 40 workmen attached to the department.

### Sanitary and Meat and Food Inspectors.

#### DEPARTMENT STAFFING.

#### Survey from Successive Annual Reports, 1934 to 1945.

**Report.** When in 1934, by a re-arrangement of areas, the present Camborne-Redruth Urban District  
**1934.** came into existence two Sanitary Inspectors were appointed by the Council, one of them (Mr. Taphouse) to the Western half of the area, the other (Mr. Nairn) to the Eastern half of the area.

The duties of a Sanitary Inspector, especially in an area of such size and character as ours is, are both very numerous and very onerous. To these duties there were added those of Inspector of meat and other foods. Each Sanitary Inspector being Meat Inspector in his own area.

Scattered over the area, many of them far apart from each other, are 33 slaughterhouses, 19 in the Western area, and 14 in the Eastern area. It is the duty of the Meat Inspector to be present whenever an animal is slaughtered. The Report states (page 21) "*Sooner or later a separate Inspector will have to be appointed for Meat and Other Foods.*"

**1935.** The Report (page 12), after paying tribute to the two Inspectors for the energy displayed by them in their effort to deal with the work that was beyond the power of two men to do, states:—"Here is a difficulty to be faced and met. It may be by the appointment of two additional qualified Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, one attached to each of the present Sanitary Inspectors."

The number of animals slaughtered in the area during the year exceeded 53,000.

**1936.** Report (page 12). "*In the Eastern area the inspection of meat and food alone could occupy the whole time of an energetic official. Of the 50,000 animals slaughtered during the year less than 30% were inspected. Two Assistant Qualified Sanitary Inspectors are required, and we would ask the Council to make these very necessary appointments without delay.*"

**1937.** Report (page 16). *The understaffing, . . . so strongly emphasised in previous reports remains. The urgency of this matter is not realized, notwithstanding all that has been written and said.*

## SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

1938. Report (page 38). *With the present staff it is not possible to inspect all the animals slaughtered* under present circumstances.

Cattle slaughtered	...	1,063
Number inspected	...	314

There is room for a whole-time Meat Inspector. The provision of a Central Abattoir is recommended.

1939. Report. Slaughtering in private slaughterhouses made illegal Slaughtering now confined to four licenced slaughterhouses — 3 in Redruth, 1 in Camborne, viz.:—the slaughterhouses are under

Mr. Wilkins, Mount Ambrose, Redruth.  
Mr. Ben Green, Drump Road, Redruth.  
Messrs. Livestock, Drump Road, Redruth.  
Mr. Jeffree, Mount Pleasant Farm, Camborne.

The Inspectors are saved much travelling time, but the number of animals slaughtered was great.

1940. Report. Animals slaughtered numbered more than 91,000.

Mr. Wignall was now added to the staff, and Mr. Nairn was made whole-time Meat and Food Inspector. We thus had two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Taphouse and Mr. Wignall, and one Meat Inspector, Mr. Nairn.

In the years	...	...	...	1941	1942	1943	1944
The number of animals slaughtered				67,000	44,000	49,000	50,000

1944. In this year Mr. Taphouse died. He was succeeded by Mr. Baxter who was made Chief Sanitary Inspector. Mr. Nairn ceased to be a whole-time Meat and Food Inspector. To his duties were added such other inspections as the Chief Sanitary Inspector might require him to make.

1945. Number of animals slaughtered, 53,259. The Chief Sanitary Inspector asks for an addition to his staff, making three whole-time Sanitary Inspectors working under his direction.

## Discussion.

Having held the office of Medical Officer of Health for 29 years (12 of which with the present Local Authority) an office that I shall no longer be holding when the staffing of the Department of Inspectors is considered, may I be permitted to express my unbiassed and disinterested opinion, thus:—

In accordance with Article 19 (1) of the Sanitary Officers Order 1922, the Medical Officer of Health of a district is responsible for directing generally the performance by the Sanitary Inspector of all the duties imposed on the Sanitary Inspector by Statute, Orders, Regulations, or Bye-laws.

Excluding meat and food inspection, there is in this large area abundant work requiring the services of three Sanitary Inspectors, of whom one should be chief. The Chief Sanitary Inspector should share with the other two the ordinary routine work of the Department, being as an elder brother to them, his colleagues. These should look up to him for instruction, guidance and example of efficiency. The Chief, in addition to his ordinary routine work as S.I., should be responsible for the keeping of records. He should attend the meetings of the Public Health Committee and of the Council. He should spend a minimum amount of time in his office, but should attend there punctually, at stated times, so that it is known where and when he may be found.

## Meat Inspector.

The Inspector of Meat and Other Foods in this large area performs a very important function, requiring the services of a whole-time officer possessing special and expert knowledge of a special subject. He should be an independent officer of equal standing with say, the Water Engineer, or the Chief Sanitary Inspector. There is no more reason for placing the Meat Inspector under the direction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector (who, in any case, has enough other work to occupy his whole time) than there is for placing the Water Engineer under the direction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Water supply and Sewerage are more closely associated with general Sanitation than is Meat Inspection which, decidedly, is a Speciality.

SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

What is here stated applies with even greater force when a whole-time Medical Officer of Health holds office.

However, the sooner these changes advocated are adopted, the better and more efficient will the service be.

The Whole-time Medical Officer will co-operate with :—

1. The Chief  
Sanitary Inspector.
2. The Water  
Engineer.
3. The Housing  
Officer.
4. The Meat  
Inspector.

The M.O.H. will attend the Committee Meetings dealing with each of these 4 officers.

The result will be better co-operation between and better service given by each of these departments.

In my opinion we have in Mr. Nairn an exceptionally capable Inspector of Meat and other Foods. I have been present with him on many occasions when he has made his inspections, and I have been impressed by his thoroughness and his capability.

Inspection are often made in the early morning long before other officers of the Council come on duty.

2. Nursing.

No Health Visitor, Midwife or Special Nurse is regularly employed by the Council.

3. Laboratory Facilities.

The number of specimens examined during the year in the Rivers Pathological Department of the Camborne-Redruth General Hospital was 5,142. With the exception of virulence tests, and the special tests for Venereal Disease which are carried out at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, all routine laboratory tests are carried out in this laboratory.

4. Ambulance Facilities.

Excellent Ambulance Facilities are available in the area. We are indebted to the County Commissioner St. John Ambulance Brigade, Lt.-Col. W. Blackwood, D.S.O., M.B.E., M.B. (Knight of the Order), for the following information.

There are three motor ambulances in the area.

Station.	Garage.	Officer in Charge.
1. Camborne.	College Street. Tel. 2257 (Police).	Div. Supt. J. Jory, 6 Middle Centenary Row. Tel. 3215.
2. Illogan.	Agar Road, Pool. Tel. 417 Redruth.	Div. Supt. R. J. Richards, 101 Agar Road, Illogan Highway.
3. Redruth.	Basset Street. Tel. 159 Redruth.	Div. Supt. E. S. Seymour, 60 Trefusis Road, Redruth.

Report of Divisions in the area for the year ending December 31st, 1945.

Division.	Strength.	First Aid given.	Patients Removed.	Mileage.	Road Accidents
Camborne	37	265	266	2,958	19
Illogan	33	1,050	209	1,907	10
Redruth	87	4,527	477	4,522	40
Total ...	157	5,842	952	9,387	69

  

Nursing Division.	Strength.	Attending Females.	Hours at Hospital.	Child Welfare.	First Aid Rendered.
Camborne	23	40	112	—	235
Portreath	12	—	4	—	30
Illogan	15	64	24	3 hours	120
Redruth	48	180	12	4 hours	179
Praze	13	—	—	—	12
Total ...	111	284	152	7 hours	676



SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

Members of the Ambulance Division have given service in the Camborne-Redruth Hospital and members of the Nursing Division have assisted District Nurses when required.

In November, at the request of Dr. Curnow, County Medical Officer, nurses “stood by” to give service in the event of an expected Influenza epidemic. There were volunteers also for nursing in the home, shopping and house work.

Cadets.	Boys (Ambulance)	Girls (Nursing)		Attended at
	Strength.	Strength.		Hospital.
Camborne	34	Camborne	23	23
Illogan	25	Penponds	11	14
Redruth	52	Illogan	21	86
Treleigh	21	Redruth	19	—
Troon	18			
	150		74	123

5. Nursing in the Home.

There are eight District Nursing Associations in the area, each affiliated with the County Nursing Association.

President : Mrs. Malcolm Maclaren.

Honorary Secretary : Miss Margaret Smith, Lynn Allen, Truro.

Assistant County Superintendent : Miss Margaret Thomas, “Katoomba,” The Crescent, Truro.

Association.	Local Secretary.
1. Camborne	Mrs. Britten, 55 Mount Pleasant Road, Camborne.
2. Redruth	Mrs. White, 129 Albany Road, Redruth.
3. Treslothan	Mrs. Simmons, 99 New Road, Troon.
4. North Illogan	Miss E. L. Luke, Park Bottom, Carn Brea.
5. South Illogan	Mr. Pascoe, 117 Agar Road, Illogan Highway.
6. Pencoys and Carnkie	Mrs. Collins, Four Lanes, Redruth.
7. Lanner	Mrs. Curnow, Glengarth, Lanner.
8. St. Day	Mr. Leonard Wills, 7 Mill Street, St. Day.

The shortage of nurses is acute, notwithstanding the increase of their emoluments and raised status. The work they have done is remarkably good, it cannot be too highly praised.

The District Nursing Association. Summary of Visits in 1945.

		New Cases.	Nursing Visits.	Maternal and Child Welfare.	Schools.
North Illogan	...	84	1,892	481	6
South Illogan	...	84	2,176	1,218	27
Redruth	... ..	228	4,279	572	91
Camborne	... ..	207	6,552	2,557	184
Treslothan	... ..	137	2,250	1,251	41
Pencoys	... ..	167	3,152	568	27
Lanner and Gwennap	...	120	3,307	319	21
St. Day and Carharrack		86	1,169	545	15
		1,113	24,777	7,511	412

SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

6. Hospitals.

**The Camborne-Redruth Miners' and General Hospital, Redruth.**

Total number of available beds	...	...	...	154
Average number of beds daily occupied	...	...	...	129
Number of patients admitted in 1945	...	...	...	2,329
Total number of new patients	...	...	...	3,328
Total number of out-patient attendances (including casualties)	...	...	...	20,428
Number of patients radiographed	...	...	...	2,188
Number of patients for deep x-ray treatment	...	...	...	161
Number of patients for superficial x-ray treatment	...	...	...	159
Number of patients received radium treatment	...	...	...	76
Number specimens examined in the Rivers Pathological Department	...	...	...	5,142

The following special department facilities are available in the hospital :

Ante-natal.	Medical	Surgical.
Gynæcological.	Ophthalmic.	Dental.
Diabetic.	Venereal Diseases.	Rehabilitation.
	Radiotherapeutic.	

In the pathological department were examined specimens from :

Out-patients	...	...	623
General wards	...	...	1,504
Private wards	...	...	92
Maternity department	...	...	835
Various Local Sanitary Authorities	...	...	2,088
			<hr/> 5,142 <hr/>

The new building for the Rehabilitation Department is almost completed and part of it is used.

A Diabetic Clinic has been added during the year.

By arrangement with the County Council the Venereal Diseases Clinic, hitherto held at Tuckingmill, is now in the Out-patient Department.

Additional accommodation for nurses is almost ready.

The Part I. Midwifery Training School in connection with the County Maternity Unit sanctioned in the previous year, has now been opened, thus providing the first facilities for the training of midwives in Cornwall.

A new shockproof superficial x-ray therapy plant, and a new mobile x-ray plant have been provided during the year.

A second deep x-ray therapy plant has also been ordered.

**The County Maternity Unit.**

This department in the hospital is under the administrative control of Dr. R. N. Curnow, County Medical Officer, with whose permission the following information has been supplied by the Medical Officer in charge, Dr. J. G. Hastings, M.R.C.O.G., whose valuable service is greatly appreciated.

The Department includes :

1. The Maternity Ward	...	...	15 beds.
2. The Trewirgie Annex	...	...	14 beds.
3. The Penventon Annex	...	...	15 beds.
			<hr/>
	In all	...	44 beds.

Additional beds are added temporarily as emergencies arise.



## SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

During the year, 630 patients were admitted, thus :

	Booked Patients.	Emergencies.	Total.
1. Delivered in Hospital ...	411	156	567
2. For ante-natal treatment ...	6	15	21
3. Post natal treatment ...	16	17	33
4. Abortions ...	4	5	9
Total admissions ...	437	193	630

The 567 deliveries during the year included :

Instrumental delivery (forceps) ...	30
Cæsarian sections ...	7
For twins ...	14
Craniotomy (intra uterine dead foetus) ...	2

The Cæsarian sections included booked cases 0.5% and emergencies 2.5%.

Maternal Insanity appeared in the case of one patient with an anencephalic foetus. Insanity appeared on the 4th day after delivery. Recovery after one week.

Maternal Deaths. Five emergency cases and one a booked case.

Booked Case. Death was caused by precipitate labour and excessive hæmorrhage. The emergencies included two with toxæmia, one with eclampsia, one ruptured uterus, and one pneumonia.

The total births included : Live births ...	539
Still births ...	42
	581

Still birth rate. 72.3 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Neo natal deaths. 7 out of 570 live births (i.e. 539 delivered in hospital, and 31 admitted after delivery elsewhere).

Neo natal death rate. 12.2 per 1,000 live births.

Premature babies. 39 of which 4 died.

## 7. BLOOD TRANSFUSION AND THE Rh. FACTOR.

During the year the Army Blood supply Depot, Southmead Hospital, Bristol, has been responsible for the provision and the maintenance of transfusion supplies to the hospital. This depot has since been replaced by the Civilian Regional Transfusion Laboratory of the Ministry of Health.

The Laboratory undertakes :

1. The provision of stored blood, and the maintenance of blood banks.
2. The provision of blood plasma.
3. The provision of transfusion apparatus.
4. The performance of Rh. tests.
5. The provision of Consultant Service when requested.
6. General supervision of all transfusion arrangements within the region.

Thanks to the generous help and the advice given by the Director of the Regional Blood Transfusion Service as above described. Examinations of blood specimens in connection with the Rh. factor are now carried out by Dr. Salm in the Rivers Pathological Department of the Camborne-Redruth General Hospital.

## SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

All prospective blood donors who register with the Camborne-Redruth Division of the British Red Cross Society are first examined for their blood hæmoglobin content, and every donor whose hæmoglobin content is found to be less than 70% (Sahli.) is rejected. The prospective donors are furthermore tested for the ordinary O.B.A. Grouping and the Wasserman reaction. Rh. testing in the Camborne-Redruth Hospital is done chiefly upon patients in the Maternity Department. Whenever a mother has had repeated miscarriages, and when a child is born exhibiting certain pathological signs (such as those of Hæmolytic Jaundice, Grave Anæmia or of Hydrops Foetalis), then the presence or absence of the Rh. factor is investigated in the blood of both the mother and of the child, frequently also of the father. The mother's serum is further examined by various methods for the presence of complete or incomplete Rh. agglutinins.

**Direct Transfusion. Blood Donors and the British Red Cross.**

On October 25th, 1945, a meeting was held at the Divisional Headquarters of the British Red Cross Society, Redruth, to discuss the formation of a Blood Transfusion Service for the Camborne-Redruth area.

Whereas the Civilian Regional Transfusion Service supplies stored blood (this has the advantage of being immediately available for emergencies), the Red Cross Organisation supplies blood for direct transfusion, and does not use stored blood.

A committee was formed of members of the British Red Cross, the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and of other interested persons, with Mrs. C. M. Cann, of 19 Clinton Road, Redruth, as Secretary.

The army lists of blood donors were taken, names were apportioned to each area to give direct transfusions. Each donor was visited and asked whether he or she would continue as a donor in the Camborne-Redruth Blood Transfusion Service. Appeals were made through the press and the local cinemas.

The response to these appeals was not as good as had been hoped. Indeed, up to the present day of writing (July 10th, 1946), 91 persons have volunteered, but only 67 have attended at the hospital for being grouped and tested. Donors will not be called upon to give direct transfusions more than once in six months.

**8. Private Nursing Homes.**

There are in the area three private nursing homes:

1. **The Camborne Nursing Home.** Basset Road, Camborne. Miss A. Michell, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
There are 12 registered beds for maternity, surgical and medical patients.
2. **The Tremorvah Nursing Home.** Green Lane, Redruth. Miss E. Johns, S.R.N., S.C.M.; and Miss J. B. MacLean, S.R.N., S.C.M.

The home is registered for 13 maternity beds, and for one general case.

There were 116 maternity and midwifery patients during the year.

No maternity deaths. 5 still births, of these three were attended by doctors, and two were midwifery cases.

There was one set of twins.

3. **The Redruth Nursing Home.** 10 Trewirgie Road, Redruth. Miss A. W. Andrews, S.R.N., S.C.M.. The home was registered on July 20th, 1945, for four maternity patients, and for six general cases.

**9. The Tehidy Sanatorium** is under the administrative control of the Cornwall County Council, Dr. R. N. Curnow. Medical Officer in charge, Dr. E. T. Gaspey.

There are 116 beds, 94 for medical patients and 22 surgical.

SECTION B (Health Services)—continued.

<b>Tuberculosis Clinic.</b>	Tuckingmill.	Number of attendances	...	...	...	304
<b>Orthopædic Clinic.</b>	Camborne.	Attendances.	Children	...	...	684
			Adults	...	...	111
<b>Minor Ailments Clinic.</b>	Redruth.	Attendances	...	...	...	575
	Camborne.	Attendances	...	...	...	213
<b>Venereal Diseases Clinic.</b>	Tuckingmill.	Attendances to November 30th	...	...	...	997

These several Clinics are under the administrative control of the County Medical Officer, Dr. Curnow. Further information concerning them will be found in his Annual Report to the County Council. The Venereal Diseases Clinic has been transferred from Tuckingmill to the Camborne-Redruth Hospital.

10. The Public Assistance Institution, Barncoose, Redruth.

This Institution serves the Camborne-Redruth area and environs for relief purposes. Until recently the maternity ward of the institution served the whole County west of, and including Truro.

At some time during the year the Institution ceased to deal with maternity patients.

Number of beds provided	...	...	...	...	192
Average number of beds occupied	...	...	...	...	170
Number of admissions during the year 1945	...	...	...	...	231
Number of beds in the Infirmary	...	...	...	...	99
Number of maternity patients admitted	...	...	...	...	6
Average number of beds occupied in the Infirmary	...	...	...	...	96
Number of Births	...	...	...	...	3

11. Scabies.

Disinfestation of infested persons was carried out in the first part of the year at the First Aid Post at Wesley Chapel, Redruth. Later it was carried out at a centre in Tabbs' Hostel, Redruth. When that centre was closed, namely from September onward until the end of the year, patients from this area were treated in the Cardynham Hostel, Truro.

The number of persons disinfested in the year was 247 as against 337 in the previous year.

There were 564 treatments given as against 758 in the previous year.

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## SECTION C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### 1. WATER.

A full description of the water supply in the area will be found in the Annual Report for 1944.

(a) **The Camborne Water Company's** supply to the area served has been ample to meet present demands, leaving a surplus for future extensions. Extensions contemplated are to the village Troon, to the hamlet Knave-go-by, and to several other districts within the Company's statutory area.

(b) **The Council's Reservoir**, as stated in the 1944 Report, was fed by :

1. Penstruthal	...	16,000	—	23,000	gallons daily.
2. Penventon	...	16,000	—	23,000	gallons daily.
3. Filtrick	...	68,000	—	1,000,000	gallons daily.
		100,000		1,046,000	

These figures corrected by the regular gauging of the flow during the year gave the following maximum and minimum gallon flow in 24 hours :

				Maximum gallons in 24 hours.		Minimum gallons.	
1. Penstruthal	...	...	...	155,709	December 27	29,964	May 1
2. Filtrick	...	...	...	710,680	December 27	68,896	May 31
3. Penventon	...	...	...	196,300	February 27	65,974	Oct. 24
Total				1,062,689	gallons.	164,834	gallons.

These figures do not greatly differ from the estimated figures stated in the Report for 1944, where the maximum daily flow was estimated at one million, and the minimum at one hundred thousand gallons.

### Water Analysis.

The following sources examined during the year were placed in Class I. highly satisfactory, i.e. : probable number of coliform organisms less than one per 100 ml. :

Camborne Water Company supply	...	...	Boswyn Reservoir.
			Camborne Town Tap.
Redruth Council Supply	...	...	Filtrick Intake.
			Penventon.
			Penstruthal.
			Sandy Lane Shaft.
			Town Tap, Redruth.

Also, the following sources. The number against each name refers to the number on the map in 1937. Report on the several sites :

4. Gordon Stand Tap.	36. Treskillard Tap.
10. Vogue Chute.	40. Troon Adit.
11. Roscroghan Pump.	41. Bolenowe.
13. Five Chutes.	42. Stennack.
15. Little Reskadinnick.	43. Chycarn Moor Pump.
16. Carnmarth Chute.	44. Croft Michael.
24. Bosleake Well.	46. Lanner Supply.
25. Carnkie Supply.	47. Primitive Chapel, Lanner.
27. Roseworthy.	50. Captain Eddy Chute.
30. Betty Adit.	51. Carnmarth Quarry.
34. Knave-go-By.	54. Pink Moor.
35. Bolenowe Moor.	

Although all the above waters, as stated, were Class I. upon an analysis during the year, some of them have, occasionally, not come up to such high standard.

Of other waters, being public supplies, analysed and reported upon, none were at any time Class I., their highest grading Class II. four waters, Class III. fourteen waters, Class IV. seven waters.

SECTION C (Sanitary Circumstances)—continued.

2. Complaints.

The following complaints were received and dealt with during the year, viz.:

Choked sewers and drains	...	...	...	452
Unsatisfactory housing conditions	...	...	...	75
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	...	21
Verminous premises	...	...	...	10
Rats and mice	...	...	...	69
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	48
Total	...	...	...	675

3. Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, &c.

The following works were carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors during the period under review, they followed upon the official service of notices upon the persons concerned:

Premises connected with the sewer	...	...	...	14
Drains re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	20
New lengths of drain laid	...	...	...	19
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	102
New water closets installed	...	...	...	15
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	1
Cesspools provided or repaired	...	...	...	4
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	46
Pail or pit closets abolished	...	...	...	17
Pail or pit closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	6
Sanitary dust bins provided	...	...	...	2
Defected roofs repaired	...	...	...	28
Eaves, gutters and down pipes repaired or new	...	...	...	8
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	9
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	19
Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	16
Repairing walls and ceilings	...	...	...	38
Repairing floors	...	...	...	9
Repairing window frames and sash cords	...	...	...	22
Repairing or renewing doors	...	...	...	5
Improved water supply	...	...	...	11
Repairing or renewing cooking apparatus	...	...	...	13
Repairing or renewing fire grates	...	...	...	8
Back yards paved	...	...	...	4
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	6
Water closets renewed or repaired	...	...	...	15

Verminous Premises.

Alleged verminous premises, 15 in number, were investigated.

For bugs	...	4 cases.
For Fleas	...	11 cases.

In 9 of these disinfestation was carried out by the department.

Spraying with an insecticide was effective in all cases, and the removal of woodwork, etc., became unnecessary.

4. Disinfection of Houses.

After the occurrence of an infectious disease. One hundred and eighty-four visits were paid in all to 66 premises which were disinfected; 37 library books were removed from these premises, disinfected and returned to the libraries concerned.

Thirteen houses and 14 bundles of bedding, etc., were disinfected at the request of owners or occupiers, and in each case the cost of the work was recovered.



## SECTION C (Sanitary Circumstances)—continued.

**Cowsheds and Dairies.**

Eighty visits were made to cowsheds and dairies during the year.

Before new milk producers receive contracts permitting them to sell milk to the Milk Marketing Board, the Cornwall War Agricultural Committee asks each Local Authority concerned to express their opinion upon the individual cowsheds.

Eleven premises in our area were dealt with in this way during the year.

At the end of the year 1945 our register of Cowsheds contained particulars of 322 premises in the area. During the year 3 new cowsheds were built, and two old and delapidated sheds were removed from the register.

Nine cowsheds were registered during the year.

New cowsheds constructed	...	...	...	...	3
Cowsheds re-constructed	...	...	...	...	6
Cowsheds re-drained	...	...	...	...	3
Sterilising apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	1

Milk licences were issued as follows:

Pasteurisation by short-time process	...	...	...	1
Retailing Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	4
Retailing T.T. milk	...	...	...	3
Bottling of T.T. milk	...	...	...	1

**5. Salvage.**

During the year the following quantities of Salvage were disposed of:

					T.	C.	Q.
Paper and cardboard	...	...	...		142	7	0
Books	...	...	...	...	7	16	0
Bones	...	...	...	...	3	17	0
Bottles	...	...	...	2,800 dozen			
Total	...				154	0	0

In September a "Book Drive" was organised, the target aimed at again was 70,000 books. Though not reached, the number collected was, nevertheless, remarkably high seeing that the district had previously been combed and success achieved. Of the 55,905 books collected 1,350 were sent to the Forces as reading matter, the remainder going to salvage. The Chief Sanitary Inspector notes that school children sent in the majority of the books, and that without their whole-hearted support no book drive would have been possible.

As in other districts throughout the country, a considerable decrease in salvage followed upon the cessation of hostilities.

The demand for bottles has appreciably increased during the year under review, 2,800 dozen being sold as against 1,200 dozen in the previous year.

**6. Kitchen Waste.**

386 tons of kitchen waste collected, cooked and sold during the year. This is the first completed twelve months during which the Council have been operating this service under "direction" from the Ministry of Supply.

Ours was the First Local Authority in the County to collect and cook Kitchen Waste and sell it to farmers. The system, as originally employed, had to be improvised. It was inspected by the Ministry, approved and commended. With the passing of time, however, for the sake of convenience, it was altered again and again until in the end it differed greatly from what it originally had been, so much so that it was not surprising that, following recent inspections and investigations of both the Ministry and of the County Council Officials, it was decided to entirely alter the system of cooking, and the tank system was installed.

This has given greater control and more efficient cooking.

## SECTION C (Sanitary Circumstances)—continued.

Our main source of supply of raw kitchen waste was the Nancekuke Aerodrome. During the year the personnel at the camp was greatly reduced and there followed, in consequence, a great reduction of available raw waste. Other sources of supply had to be found, and attention was directed to the town, and street collection bins were tried. These proved to be successful. More of them were obtained but the supply was limited. The demand for cooked kitchen waste far exceeded, and still exceeds, the quantity available.

**7. Refuse Collection.**

In the greater part of the district refuse is removed in properly constructed, covered refuse vehicles. Carts are still being used in a few outlying parts.

A very full discussion upon the subject of our refuse collection was conducted in 1938, and report upon it appears in the M.O.H. Annual Report for that year. Improvements followed upon that discussion, but the very undesirable practice of removing faecal matter in the way in which it then was done has scarcely improved.

It gives pleasure, therefore, to be able to report that this question of cart transport for the removal of refuse and of faecal matter from unsewered areas was again reported upon in detail by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. The Council then decided to replace the carts (with one exception) with motor transport vehicles.

Two tips were being used during the year, the main one off Station Road, Pool, and a very small secondary tip at Beacon Fields.

This secondary tip, which will cease to be used as soon as the carts have been re-placed by motor lorries, receives refuse and faecal matter from Troon and the Beacon area.

Disposed of at the controlled tip during the year were:

Of refuse ... ..	3,431 lorry loads.
Of rubbish and highway sweepings ...	124 loads.
Sold to farmers for manure ... ..	81 loads.

Disposed of at the tip at Beacon Fields were:

House refuse and contents of buckets, etc.	1,196 cart loads.
--------------------------------------------	-------------------

Properly covered bins are still unobtainable in adequate numbers.

People have had to make use of all sorts of containers, many of which are entirely unsatisfactory. Except in one or two cases where one felt obliged to do so, we have not pressed for the provision of proper bins.

The use for standard bins through the area, as soon as they become available in adequate numbers should be strongly advised.

**8. Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.**

Rat destruction was continued throughout the year. Nine major infestations and 149 minor infestations were treated.

Major infestations:

Points baited ... ..	400
Bodies recovered ... ..	270
Estimated number killed ... ..	1,350

Minor infestations:

Carcases recovered ... ..	414
Estimated number killed ... ..	2,070

The main bait used was sausage rusk, the poison being zinc phosphide.

For the re-treatment bread mash and arsenic were used.

In addition to the rat destruction carried out by our own Department the Ministry of Food have treated premises under their control, and the Cornwall War Agricultural Committee have treated agricultural land and premises.

## SECTION C (Sanitary Circumstances)—continued.

**9. Shop Acts.**

Little or no work has been done in connection with the Shops' Acts during the year.

**Factory Act.**

The normal routine of Factory Inspections has not been carried out. Only one or two premises were visited, and these visits followed upon complaints received or in response to a request from the occupier.

**Offices.**

No inspections of offices were made during the year.

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**SECTION D. Housing.**

There are many houses in the area which, under normal circumstances, would have been recommended for demolition. Some years, however, will probably elapse before they will be demolished and new houses erected to take their place.

In the case of two houses reported to the Committee, and demolition advised, one was closed, while the occupier of the other was permitted to remain at his own risk. The standard of Housing Conditions has had to be lowered and will remain lowered so long as the present acute house shortage remains.

It was not because they were the only ones known that only six cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year. The difficulty faced is the finding of a remedy.

My suggestion that a survey be made of the relative number of persons per room occupying Council Houses does not appear to have found favour. It is probable in some cases occupied say by a married couple without children, or occupied by two old folk only, there may be several unoccupied rooms in the house. In such cases a more equitable distribution of tenants might liberate some houses to be occupied by some of those people now living in overcrowded dwellings.

There are 534 Council Houses in the area, all of them occupied, and there are 800 applicants awaiting the first vacancy.

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SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. Milk.

As in previous years, in nutritive value and fat content, the milk produced has reached a remarkably high standard.

The standard of cleanliness upon leaving the farm shews a decided improvement.

Of 114 samples of milk collected from Vendors' vans, in the street, the average fat content was 3.92%. No sample was found to contain less than the legal minimum of 3%.

Methylene Blue Test Passed.

In the year	1935	1940	1942	1943	1944	1945
% passed	—	71.4%	83.0%	71.4%	77.27%	84.2%

Coliform Test Passed.

40%	44.4%	51.5%	44.3%	53.8%	65.0%
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The normal home of the Coliform bacillus is the colon or large intestine, but it is found elsewhere also.

Its presence in milk is evidence of uncleanness. The Coliform Bacillus possesses the property of fermenting certain sugars with the production of gas, and it is this property that is made use of in the Coliform test.

The Milk Marketing Board, Treswithian, Camborne.

The Manager of the Milk Marketing Board reports that during the year under review, over four and a half million gallons of milk were received from producers in the area, this being an increase of 18% over the quantity received in the previous year. Of this quantity of approximately 3,800,000 gallons were treated and despatched for liquid consumption, mainly in London, while the remainder of 700,000 gallons or more, were manufactured to make butter and milk powder.

It was in the autumn and the winter months that increased production was most marked.

Tests of the producers' supplies were carried out twice monthly throughout the year, and once monthly for butter fat, solids not fat and for visible sediment.

All doubtful quality milk was tested on arrival and 16,160 gallons were rejected for poor keeping quality and 1,105 gallons on account of poor chemical quality.

These figures, unfortunately reveal a marked increase in the amount of poor quality milk supplied.

Rejected for poor keeping quality, during the year, were :

January ...	8	May ...	1,445	September ...	2,769
February ...	105	June ...	2,274	October ...	221
March ...	107	July ...	3,661	November ...	209
April ...	1,399	August ...	3,956	December ...	None

Total 16,154 gallons.

These details again emphasise the need of greater care in production during the months of April to September.

All rejections were reported to the Cornwall War Agricultural Committee who arranged for their Dairy Staff to pay advisory visits to the farms concerned. The chief causes for the poor quality milk were:—

- (1) Milking utensils not sterile.
- (2) Insufficient or no cooling.

The pasteurising plant was in operation throughout the year supplying small quantities of pasteurised milk in the district.

SECTION E (Supervision of Food)—continued.

2. The Dehydration Unit.

It is of absorbing interest to witness the process of dehydration, and the dehydrated product has an attractive appearance. Not only is it appetising it is of great food value also.

During the year under review the weight of raw cabbage subjected to drying was 3,106 tons.

The weight of dried cabbage produced	...	...	138 tons.
The production ratio was	...	...	22.5 : 1.

The weight of raw potato subjected to drying	...	1,227 tons.
The weight of dried potato produced	...	154 tons.
The production ratio was	...	7.9 : 1.

The dried product is sent to various Ministry of Food Buffer Depots, its ultimate destination is unknown.

3. Inspection of Meat and other foods.

Slaughtering of animals for human consumption has continued at the four licensed slaughter-houses in the area, viz. :—

- Mr. Wilkins, Mount Ambrose, Redruth.
- Mr. Jeffree, Mount Pleasant Farm, Camborne.
- Messrs. Livestock, Ltd., Drump Station Road, Redruth.
- Mr. Ben Green, Drump Station Road, Redruth.

The number of animals slaughtered was :—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	3,477
Calves	...	...	...	...	10,526
Sheep	...	...	...	...	4,452
Swine	...	...	...	...	34,804
Total	...	...	...	...	53,259

This shews an increase of 2,484 animals slaughtered during the year over the number slaughtered in the previous year. But while the number of swine slaughtered in the year shewed an increase of 2,521 over the number slaughtered in the previous year, the number of cattle, calves and sheep shewed an actual decrease of thirteen in the number slaughtered during the year under review.

The number of visits 1,887 made for the purpose of meat inspection conveys little information of value, the important fact being the time spent at any visit. Not infrequently a whole morning is spent visiting a slaughterhouse, and this counts for but one visit.

I am strongly of opinion that meat inspection as previously stated is the work of a whole time single officer.

The following whole carcasses were condemned as unfit for human consumption (in addition to numerous parts and offals) :—

Cow carcasses	...	...	...	...	260
Bull carcasses	...	...	...	...	6
Steer and heifer carcasses	...	...	...	...	39
Calf carcasses	...	...	...	...	22
Sheep carcasses	...	...	...	...	13
Swine carcasses	...	...	...	...	57
Total	...	...	...	...	397

The number of carcasses condemned 397 or 7.5 per 1,000 animals slaughtered.

The total weight of meat and offals condemned during the year was 115 tons 16 cwt.

The conditions at the four slaughter houses, imperfect as they are (under the direction of the Ministry of Food) were tolerated only because of the National Emergency.

With the cessation of hostilities some attempt must be made to improve the conditions under which animals are slaughtered and the meat handled.



## SECTION E (Supervision of Food)—continued.

Towards the end of 1945 these unsatisfactory conditions were brought to the notice of the Ministry of Food. Additional hanging room was asked for but was considered to be too expensive for a temporary scheme.

It was, however, agreed to provide washing facilities and a supply of hot water at the various slaughter houses where such facilities do not exist.

In view of the fact that we do not know how long the present imperfect slaughter houses will be used, both the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food were approached and permission asked for the Council to provide and erect an abattoir for the whole district. The replies received do not encourage the belief that the erection of an abattoir will be permitted at present.

The numerous privately owned slaughter houses (some of them not worthy of the name slaughter house) remain unused owing to the Government Scheme of slaughtering.

When this scheme ceases to be used it is earnestly hoped that the small privately owned slaughter houses will not be permitted to be used for slaughtering, such practice is entirely obsolete. Moreover a much larger staff would be required if inspection of these widely separated and scattered slaughter houses, at times suitable to the individual butchers, were to be made. Efficient meat inspection would unquestionably require a large number of inspectors.

#### 4. Other Foods Condemned.

346 visits and inspections were made in connection with the condemnation of foods other than butchers' meat.

The following foods were condemned during 1945 :—

Tinned meats	...	...	...	...	1,205 lbs.
Tinned fish	...	...	...	...	420 lbs.
Wet fish	...	...	...	...	728
Tinned milk	...	...	...	...	241
Tinned beans	...	...	...	...	275
Peas	...	...	...	...	831
Cheese	...	...	...	...	190
Cereals	...	...	...	...	177
Fruit	...	...	...	...	689
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	937
Total					5,693

Total weight of other foods condemned 2 tons, 10 cwt.

#### 5. Food Premises.

182 visits were paid to Food Premises for inspecting and recording.

40 Food Premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The total number of premises so registered is now 57.

The register at present contains records of premises as follows :—

Grocers	...	...	...	...	62
Butchers	...	...	...	...	30
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	28
Restaurants, Cooked Meats, &c.	...	...	...	...	11
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	11
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	12
Total					158

The manufacture and sale of ice cream again became permissible during 1945, and 11 new premises were registered under the County of Cornwall Act for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream.

#### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The licences of 35 slaughtermen were renewed during the year, under the above Act.

SECTION F. Prevalence of, & control of, Infectious and other Diseases.

Infectious diseases notified were :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	279
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Total									515

**Measles** appeared in January with one case, thereafter month by month, the number steadily increased, reaching a maximum in July when 126 cases were notified. The number then rapidly declined, and the last case in the year was notified in September.

**Scarlet fever.** The maximum number of cases notified in any one month was 8. This occurred in January. In every succeeding month at least one case was notified. The total number for the year being 50 cases. All of them were of mild character and only 13 were sent to the Isolation Hospital.

In September, Dr. Curnow, in a circular letter to all Medical Practitioners practising in Cornwall, reminded us that the Ministry had frequently deprecated the practice of sending simple uncomplicated cases of Scarlet fever to the Isolation Hospital. Scarlet fever may be produced by a variety of types of the infecting agent (hæmolytic streptococcus) and a patient infected with one type may pass his infection on to another patient suffering from Scarlet fever also but of a different type. Therefore, the letter states: "A patient, if being an uncomplicated case of Scarlet fever, should be treated at his home and not be exposed to the dangers of cross infection at present inseparable from the routine system of Isolation Hospital treatment as commonly practised."

**Diphtheria.** It was not until the last week in August that a patient was notified in the area suffering with Diphtheria. By the end of the year 29 more cases had been notified. Eight of these occurred among children attending the same school. They occurred between the 3rd of November and the 20th of December. This suggested the presence in the school of a carrier by whom these children were being infected. Upon investigation, among 490 persons swabbed, 10 were found to harbour virulent Diphtheria bacilli. A large number of the children had been immunised (approximately 95%) within the previous 4 or 5 years. A person effectively protected by immunisation may readily become a carrier, and a carrier may readily infect a person who has not been immunised. It is unfortunate that when immunising children upon a large scale no record was kept of the ages of the children. We know, however, that since 1940 to June, 1946, 28,898 single immunising doses had been given in the area. The great majority of these injections were given to children of school age. Now the estimated number of children of school age

that is children aged between 5 years and 15, is 5,000

and of children aged between 0 years and 4, is 2,550.

Comparing the number of children with the number of immunising doses given the inference undoubtedly may be drawn that a high percentage of the children in the area are immunised.

**Poliomyelitis** or Infantile paralysis. Remembering the epidemic appearance of Encephalitis (sleeping sickness) in the area towards the end of the first World War, we became rather alarmed when in August three cases of Poliomyelitis were notified in the area, for the two diseases are of similar nature. At this time Poliomyelitis was prevalent in Belgium and it may have been brought to us from that source. However, by the end of the year only three more cases had been notified, and there has been none since.

SECTION F (Infectious Diseases)—continued.

**Tuberculosis.** The number of persons on our tuberculosis register at the beginning and the end of the year are here stated:—

Pulmonary				Non-pulmonary			Total Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Jan. 1, 1945	244	142	386	65	45	110	496
Dec. 31, 1945	249	145	394	68	46	114	508

Notified for the first time in the area were:—

	24	9	33	3	1	4	37
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**The County Isolation Hospital, Truro.**

The number of patients admitted and the number of patient-days, residence.

						Patients Total	Patient-Days.
Diphtheria (including carrier type)	...	...	...	...	...	38	795
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	13	317
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	5	250
Cerebro-spinal-meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	3	62
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	2	16
Tuberculous meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1	13
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	34
Vincent Angina	...	...	...	...	...	1	13
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	25
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	1	15
Sunstroke	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Total admissions and total patient-days						70	1,546

It not infrequently happens that, in its initial stage, and before the characteristic signs of the disease are clearly established, a tentative diagnosis is made which by the time the patient leaves the hospital has to be corrected.

This fact will explain why, in the list above enumerated, are included a certain number of illnesses which are not infectious diseases.

APPENDIX.

Observations made at Trevinee, Gwennap, and kindly supplied by C. H. Beauchamp, Esq., to whom we are greatly indebted.

	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Total rainfall for the year ...	46.62	42.91	41.93	45.90	50.46	45.58	48.14
Mean monthly fall ...	3.88	3.57	3.49	3.82	4.20	3.79	4.01
Wettest month ...	Nov.	Nov.	Feb.	May	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.
	7.12	8.74	6.43	7.60	9.16	10.81	8.52
Driest month ...	May	Aug.	July	Feb.	June	May	March
	0.33	0.10	0.20	0.16	0.31	0.16	1.49
Number of wet days ...	162	153	154	178	196	168	170
Greatest fall in one day ...	1.56	1.33	1.58	1.32	1.76	2.08	1.23
Number of dry days ...	203	212	211	187	169	197	168

Altitude 240ft. Lat. 50 deg., 30ft. Long. 5 deg., 10ft. Rainfall above is recorded in inches.

The total rainfall from 1892 until 1945, that is in a period of 52 years, "measured" 204ft. 9.34 inches.  
During the last 50 years the average number of wet days in a year was 201 days.  
The wettest month was in November 1929, when there was a fall 13.35 inches.  
The driest month was April in the year 1938 with a rainfall of 0.02 inches.  
The largest rainfall on any one day, was on October 7th, 1924, when the rainfall was 3.19 inches.













